

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INT-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-02 H-02 FEA-01 NSC-05

SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 /082 R

DRAFTED BY ARA-LA/E - WSCLARKE:GFH

APPROVED BY ARA-LA/EP - JFKING

EB/IFD/OIA - MR. BRODERICK (INFO)

EB/ORF/FSE - MCREEKMORE (INFO)

----- 130944

R 041844Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 076535

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EINV, EC

SUBJECT: ADA CASE REMAINS UNSETTLED

REF: QUITO 1707

1. DESK RECEIVED CALL FROM JOE LASSITER, MANAGER OF GULF OF GUAYAQUIL CONSORTIUM (ADA OIL), 2 APRIL. LASSITER INDICATED THAT HE HAS NOT BEEN IN CONTACT WITH DEPT IN RECENT MONTHS BECAUSE HE HAD NOTHING NEW TO REPORT. HE STATED THAT CONSORTIUM MANAGEMENT IS NOW PREPARING RESPONSE TO WHAT HE CALLED A QUOTE NAIVE UNQUOTE LETTER FROM MIN OF NATURAL RESOURCES INQUIRING ABOUT ADA CLAIMS. REPLY IS BEING REVIEWED BY ADA CONSORTIUM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 3 APRIL, AND IF ACCEPTED, WILL BE DELIVERED WITHIN WEEK
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OR TEN DAYS.

2. LASSITER SAID THAT CONSORTIUM HAS SETTLED TRASERCO (EQUITY FUNDING) RESIDUAL CLAIMS AND HAS TRANSMITTED ALL RELEVANT OWNERSHIP DOCUMENTS TO GOE. HE STATES, HOWEVER, THAT GOE HAS STILL NOT COMPLETED FORMATION OF LEGAL SUB-COMMITTEE AND THAT LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE HAS NEVER MET. PLEASE CONFIRM.

3. WHILE LASSITER DID NOT WISH TO INDICATE LEGAL TACTICS

TO BE TAKEN BY ADA CONSORTIUM, HE HINTED THAT LEGAL MEASURES AGAINST NORTHWEST PIPELINE WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN AS SOON AS A CONTRACT IS SIGNED WITH GOE. HE CLAIMS THAT LOWER RANKING OFFICIAL QUOTE LEAKED UNQUOTE RESULTS OF AUDIT SUBCOMMISSION, WHICH ALLEGEDLY VALUED ADA'S INVESTMENT AT \$22 MILLION. LETTER TO MINNAT RESOURCES WILL CALL FOR PAYMENT OF INVESTMENT AND SHARE OF GAS DISCOVERED BY CONSORTIUM.

4. IN REPLY TO QUESTION FROM DESK, LASSITER STATED THAT CONSORTIUM HAD NO ACTIONS TO REQUEST OF DEPARTMENT AT THIS TIME OTHER THAN TO MAINTAIN INTERCHANGE OF INFORMATION. HE WAS TOLD THAT USEFUL EXCHANGE SHOULD BE MAINTAINED BUT THAT WE WISHED TO STAY CLEAR OF ANY SITUATION INVOLVING POSSIBLE LITIGATION BETWEEN U.S. COMPANIES. INGERSOLL

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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